Express Mail Label #EL732724821US

"Express Mail" mailing label numbe Date of Deposit Jahuaru

D.C. 20231.

hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail

Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CPR 1 10

on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington,

ged or printed name of person mailing paper or fea-

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: NORBERT MILLER

FOR: METHOD FOR THE AUTOMATION OF ALLOCATION PROCESSES FOR PRODUCTS AND/OR SERVICES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PCT

The Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 02031

Sir:

Prior to the Examiner acting in the above-referenced application, please preliminary amend the specification and claims as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, between lines 4 and 5, please insert --FIELD OF THE INVENTION--.

Page 1, between lines 8 and 9, please insert -- DESCRIPTION OF THE RELATED ART--.

Page 2, between lines 3 and 4, please insert -- SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

Page 7, between lines 14 and 15, please insert -- BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--.

Page 7, between lines 20 and 21, please insert -- DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENT---.

Please delete page 10 in its entirety.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following claims.

Claim 2, line 1, please change "characterized in that" to --wherein--.

Claim 10, line 1, please change "characterized in that" to --wherein--.

Please rewrite the following claims in amended form.

Claim 3. (Amended) Method as in [one of the preceding] claim[s] 1, [characterized in that] wherein the local-area communications link is a mobile radio telephone network system.

Claim 4. (Amended) Method as in [one of the preceding] claim[s] 1, [characterized in that] wherein the local-area communications link is a local-area radio network.

Claim 5. (Amended). Method as in [one of the preceding] claim[s] 1, [characterized in that] wherein the authorization code for a particular use is issued for a limited area or time.

Claim 6. (Amended) Method as in [one of the preceding] claim[s] 1, [characterized in that] wherein the local-area communications link is enabled by the user.

Claim 7. (Amended) Method as in [one of the preceding] claim[s] 1, [characterized in that] wherein the non-contact code verification is accomplished by optical means.

Claim 8. (Amended) Method as in [one of the preceding] claim[s] 1, [characterized in that] wherein a code provided by the user for transmission and/or verification purposes is released by a selective activation.

Claim 9. (Amended) Method as in [one of the preceding] claim[s] 1, [characterized in that] wherein [the] data-transfer, availability-checking, reservation and allocation or assignment processes are performed with an aid of a central mainframe processing system.

Claim 11. (Amended) Method as in [one of the preceding] claim[s] $\underline{1}$, [characterized in that] wherein the method is used for a ticketing system for public transportation.

Claim 12. (Amended) Method as in [one of the preceding] claim[s] 1, [characterized in that], wherein, under utilization of a code and of an information related to its use, an accounting statement is automatically generated.

REMARKS

Applicant requests entry of the above-identified amendments which conform the claims to U.S. practice. No new matter is being introduced by this Amendment as antecedent support is set forth in the specification and the original claims.

Prosecution on the merits is respectfully requested.

If there are any charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicant's attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

NORBERT MILLER

CANTOR COLBURN LLP
Applicant's Attorney

Daniel F. Drexler

Registration No. P47,535

Customer No. 23413

Date: January 24, 2001